

Scripture Selected:

Genesis 2:4a-12

Job 38:16-18

Focus statement: We as mankind have seen creation as ours to use to the maximum benefit. We are out of rhythm with the rest of creation.

Function Statement: That the hearers would seek to live their lives closer to God for the sake of the creation and ourselves as we are part of that creation. That they will seek a better way to exist as part of Gods Creation

Outline that this second story of Creation is not often reflected on. Different to the God centred story in Genesis 1 instead of "It was good" it is a more practical reflection on Creation so maybe "that works" could be used to break up the different stages of creation. There is not the appreciation for the wonder of creation that is seen in the God Centred version of Creation

When we cling to this attitude of what works for us, rather than what works best for us and creation together, we have pushed creation to its limits. Destroyed greenbelt and forests, built in a way that makes life easier, more exciting. It works for us, with total disregard for the rest of creation. However, this is a world with us at the centre not God. Expand on the negative impact on Creation, including science as appropriate. We lose the wonder of creation

Explore the negative impact on us as humans. Less physical lifestyles due to a dependency on a variety of powered devices. Even changes in sleep patterns was brought about by the aftermath of the Industrial revolution. The advent of more methods of artificial light has made for a world where we exist out of sync with the seasonal variations of the year. Out of sync with creation. Out of sync with God. Explore the negative impact on humans of the more industrialised life.

The verses from Job 38 are a reminder from God that we know so very little about Creation and that we have no control in reality. We might think we do but we don't. The fact we are living at odds with Creation and with God makes for a less that satisfactory existence. Explore ideas of repentance

We need to refocus on God and Creation and stop trying to conform to the ways of the world. Seek out a better rhythm of life, that brings benefit to both Creation and ourselves. Explore how this can be done offering examples of how to achieve this refocus.